

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for rendering DVD subpicture data on a computer system having graphics data without a loss of subpicture resolution includes inserting a key into the subpicture data during or right after decoding and storing the subpicture data in the primary graphics surface. This key indicates whether the data is graphics (GUI) information or subpicture information. The key is then examined by hardware logic in the graphics chip, allowing other hardware logic to blend DVD subpicture data with DVD video data without losing subpicture color resolution. The key may be implemented differently for different color modes of the primary surface, and may be unnecessary in certain modes.